GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1314
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
Model Laboratories in Schools
Girri Shri Maheish

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of model labs created across the country under the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan which was launched on 9 July, 2015 to create interest among school going students in sciences;

(b) the details of funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised for this programme since its inception under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make teaching of Science and Mathematics interesting under the said programme?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The Central Government has launched the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA), a convergent framework across SSA, RMSA and Higher Education in 2015-16 with the aim to encourage children towards learning Science and Mathematics and to develop a sense of curiosity and interest in inside and outside classroom activities related to Science and Mathematics. One of the interventions under RAA is to strengthen Science and Mathematics laboratories in schools. RAA framework provides for strengthening of School Science laboratories based on set standards. The Higher Education institutions are to act as mentoring institutions to the schools to help & guide State Governments/UTs and schools to build appropriate and modern science laboratories.

(b) The funding for activities under RAA comes from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for various components like in-service teacher training of mathematics and science teachers at upper primary level, Learning Enhancement Programme, Computer Aided Learning and Innovations. During the year 2015-16 under SSA, the Central Government had approved an outlay of Rs. 286.52 crore to States/UTs (Rs. 136.52 crore for teacher training, learning enhancement programme (LEP) innovation and Rs. 150 crore for Computer Aided Learning (CAL). Similarly, under RMSA an amount of Rs. 111.57 crore was approved in 2015-16 for training of science and maths teachers, remedial teaching, purchase of science and maths kits, science exhibitions, etc.

(c) RAA proposes various interventions including teacher preparation for Science, mathematics and technology, recruitment of science and mathematics teachers, pre-service and in-service teachers training for science and mathematics teachers, assessment design for science and mathematics for students, provision of teaching-learning equipments and supplementary books/materials to enhance science and mathematics transaction in classrooms, maths and science kits, use of technology in science and mathematics teaching, development of resource materials, strengthening of teacher support institutions and the use of technology, effective classroom transaction, etc. to make teaching of science and mathematics interesting for the students.

A two days workshop was organized on 16-17 November, 2015 for orientation of Nodal Officers of States/UTs SSA/RMSA and institutions of higher education. A joint road map for the implementation of activities for the coming months was developed in the workshop.

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